

Attorney Docket No. PP001618.0003 (2300-1618)

PATENT

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via EFS to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below pursuant to 37 CFR §1.8.

Date

9/10/07

Signature



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of HOUGHTON et al.

Serial No.: 09/728,423

Examiner: M. Hill

Confirmation No.: 3252

Art Unit: 1648

Filed: December 1, 2000

For: ELICITING HCV-SPECIFIC ANTIBODIES

---

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

In accordance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56,  
Applicant(s) hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R.  
§§1.97 and 1.98.

- ☒ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98, a copy of each document cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08 is enclosed.
- ☐ No copy of the publication \_\_\_\_\_ listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are being provided because the Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U. S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003.
- ☐ No copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are being provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) because the publications were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior Application Serial No. 10/357,619 to which the above-identified application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120.

- ☐ Publication(s) \_\_\_\_\_ listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A were cited in a foreign search or examination report corresponding to \_\_\_\_\_ application serial no. \_\_\_\_\_ and mailed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Enclosed is a copy of a non-English publication(s) \_\_\_\_\_. Pursuant to §609 of the M.P.E.P., Applicant submits the attached foreign search or examination report, which cites such non-English language publication(s).
- ☐ Enclosed is a copy of a non-English publication(s) \_\_\_\_\_. English language publication \_\_\_\_\_ (copy enclosed) claims priority from this non-English publication.
- ☐ Enclosed is an explanation of non-English publication(s) \_\_\_\_\_ for which an English translation is not available.
- ☐ Enclosed is an English translation of non-English publication(s) \_\_\_\_\_ cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.
- ☐ Enclosed is a copy of pending patent Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within any one of the following time periods:

- ☐ within three months from the filing date of this national application other than a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d);
- ☐ within three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in this international application;
- ☐ before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits; or
- ☒ before the mailing of a first office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

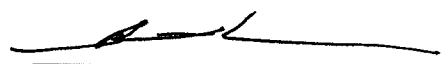
It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the above-noted information and return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to the undersigned.

Dated: 9/10/07

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics, Inc.  
Intellectual Property – R440  
P.O. Box 8097  
Emeryville, CA 94662  
Tel: (510) 923-8405  
Fax: (510) 655-3542

By:

  
Roberta L. Robins  
Reg. No. 33,208

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				<b>Application Number</b>	09/728,423
				<b>Filing Date</b>	December 1, 2000
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	HOUGHTON et al.
				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1648
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	M. Hill
<b>Sheet</b>	1	<b>of</b>	2	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	PP001618.0003 (2300-1618)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
-------------------------------	--	----------------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number.

<sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents.

<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

<sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				<b>Application Number</b>	09/728,423
				<b>Filing Date</b>	December 1, 2000
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	HOUGHTON et al.
				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1648
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	M. Hill
<b>Sheet</b>	2	<b>of</b>	2	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	PP001618.0003 (2300-1618)

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T <sup>1</sup>
	C1	FOURNILLIER, et al., "SUCCESSFUL INDUCTION OF ANTIBODIES WITH NEUTRALIZING PROPERTIES DIRECTED AT HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEIN E2 FOLLOWING DNA IMMUNIZATION", Hepatology, Vol. 30, No. 4, page 451a, October 1999 XP001030707, Abstract		
	C2	GEISSLER, et al., "DIFFERENTIAL CELLULAR AND HUMORAL IMMUNE RESPONSES TO HCV CORE AND HBV ENVELOPE PROTEINS AFTER GENETIC IMMUNIZATIONS USING CHIMERIC CONSTRUCTS", Vaccine, 16(8):857-867 (1998)		
	C3	TEDESCHI, et al., "A SPECIFIC ANTIBODY RESPONSE TO HCV E2 ELICITED IN MICE BY INTRAMUSCULAR INOCULATION OF PLASMID DNA CONTAINING CODING SEQUENCES FOR E2", Hepatology, 25(2):459-462 (1997)		

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
---------------------------	--	------------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation attached.